Subcritical Pulverized Bituminous Coal Plant With Carbon Capture & Sequestration

Plant Overview

This analysis is based on a 550 MWe (net power output) subcritical bituminous pulverized coal (PC) plant located at a greenfield site in the midwestern United States. This plant captures carbon dioxide (CO₂) to be sequestered and is designed to meet Best Available Control Technology (BACT) emission limits. The plant is a single-train design. The combination process, heat, and mass balance diagram for the subcritical PC plant with carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) case is shown in Figure I. The primary fuel is an Illinois No. 6 bituminous coal with a higher heating value (HHV) of II,666 Btu/lb. The capacity factor (CF) for the plant is 85 percent without sparing of major train components.

Table I. Plant Performance Summary

Plant Type	PC Subcritical		
Carbon capture	Yes		
Net power output (kWe)	549,613		
Net plant HHV efficiency (%)	24.9		
Primary fuel (type)	Illinois No. 6 coal		
Levelized cost-of-electricity (mills/kWh) @ 85% capacity factor	118.8		
Total plant cost (\$ x 1,000)	\$1,591,277		
Cost of CO ₂ avoided (\$/ton)	68		

¹The cost of CO₂ avoided is defined as the difference in the 20-year levelized-cost-of electricity between controlled and uncontrolled like cases, divided by the difference in CO₂ emissions in kg/MWh.

A summary of plant performance data for the subcritical PC plant with CCS is presented in Table 1.

Makeup Water RAW WATER USAGE Oxidation Air Mass Flow, gpm 14,098 **GYPSUM** Gypsum nergy Flow MMBtu/hr Baghouse **FGD** Infiltration Air 400,501 AIR 44 Energy Flow MMBtu/hr Mass Flow, lb/h Induced Limestone 6,481,435 SCR 85 Draft LIMESTONE Slurry Mass Flow, lb/h Forced COAL 146,287 **Draft Fans** Pulverized Fly Rank Bituminous Ash Illinois No. 6 Coal Seam Boiler Component Moisture STACK GAS Carbon 63.75 Reboiler Hydrogen 4.50 Steam Nitrogen 1.25 Primary 5.535,170 Chlorine 0.29 Air Fans Econamine Sulfur 2.51 FG+ Ash 9.70 Coal Feed Oxyger 6.88 Condensate Stack Return 100.00 Total CO2 nergy Flow MMBtu/hr PM/ASH **Bottom Ash** Mass Flov Product CO2 (98) 62,699 Compressor OUTPUT Energy Flow MMBtu/hr Mass Flow, Energy Flow, Mass Flow, LOSSES Net Power 2.359 7,549 646,589 Energy Flow, MMBtu/hr Mass Flow, Net Plant Efficiency, % HHV (Overall) 24.9% lb/hr Condenser 2,200

Figure I. Process Flow Diagram
Subcritical Pulverized Coal Unit With CCS

Process

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Technical Description

The analysis for the subcritical PC plant with CCS is based on a commercially available dry-bottom, wall-fired boiler equipped with low-nitrogen oxides (NOx) burners (LNBs) and over-fire air (OFA). The unit is a balanced-draft, natural-circulation design equipped with a superheater, reheater, economizer, and air preheater. Hot flue gas (FG) exiting the boiler is treated by a selective catalytic reduction (SCR) unit for NOx removal, a baghouse for particulate matter (PM) removal, and a limestone-based scrubber for sulfur dioxide (SO₂) control and co-removal of mercury (Hg). This plant utilizes a conventional steam turbine for power generation. The Rankine cycle is based on a single reheat system with steam conditions of 16.5 MPa/566°C/566°C (2,400 psig/1,050°F/1,050°F).

This subcritical PC plant with CCS is equipped with the Fluor Econamine FG PlusTM technology for carbon capture. Flue gas exiting the scrubber system is directed to the Econamine FG PlusTM process, where CO_2 is absorbed in a monethanolamine-based solvent. A booster blower is required to overcome the process pressure drop. Carbon dioxide recovered in the Econamine FG PlusTM process is dried, compressed, and delivered to the plant fence line at 15.3 MPa (2,215 psia) for subsequent pipeline transport. The compressed CO_2 is transported via pipeline to a geologic sequestration field for injection into a saline aquifer, which is located within 50 miles of the plant.

Achieving a nominal 550 MWe net output with this plant configuration results in an HHV thermal input requirement of 2,210,668 kWt (7,543 MMBtu/hr basis). This thermal input is achieved by burning coal at a rate of 646,589 lb/hr, which yields an HHV net plant heat rate of 13,724 Btu/kWh (net plant efficiency of 24.9 percent). The gross power output of 680 MWe is produced from the steam turbine generator. With an auxiliary power requirement of 130 MWe, the net plant output is 550 MWe. The Econamine FG Plus™ process imposes a significant auxiliary power load on the system, which requires this case to have a higher gross output, as compared with the subcritical without CCS case, to maintain the same 550 MWe net output.

Environmental Performance

This study assumes the use of BACT to meet the emission requirements of the 2006 New Source Performance Standard for criteria pollutants.

The subcritical PC plant with CCS has an emission control strategy consisting of LNBs with OFA and SCR for NOx control, a pulse jet fabric filter for PM control, and a wetlimestone, forced-oxidation scrubber for SO₂ control. After NOx emissions are initially controlled through the use of LNBs and OFA, an SCR unit is used to further reduce the NOx concentration by 86 percent. Particulate emissions are controlled using a pulse jet fabric filter, which operates at an efficiency of 99.8 percent. The wet-limestone, forced-oxidation scrubber achieves a 98 percent removal of SO₂. A polishing scrubber included as part of the Econamine FG Plus™ process further reduces the SO₂ concentration to less than 10 ppmv. The balance of the SO₂ is removed in the Econamine absorber resulting in negligible SO, emissions. The byproduct from the wet-limestone scrubber calcium sulfate, is dewatered and stored onsite. The wallboard-grade material potentially can be marketed and sold, but since it is highly dependent on local

Table 2. Air Emissions Summary
@ 85% Capacity Factor

Pollutant	PC Subcritical With CCS (90%)		
CO ₂			
• tons/year	569,524		
• Ib/MMBtu	20.3		
• cost of CO ₂ avoided (\$/ton)	68		
SO ₂			
• tons/year	Negligible		
• Ib/MMBtu	Negligible		
NOx			
• tons/year	1,966		
• Ib/MMBtu	0.070		
PM			
• tons/year	365		
• Ib/MMBtu	0.013		
Hg			
• tons/year	0.032		
• lb/TBtu	1.14		

market conditions, no byproduct credit is taken. The combination of SCR, a fabric filter and wet scrubber also

provides co-benefit Hg capture at an assumed 90 percent of the inlet value. After leaving the Econamine FG $Plus^{TM}$ process, the flue gas is vented through the plant stack.

A summary of the resulting air emissions is presented in Table 2.

Cost Estimation

Plant size, primary/secondary fuel type, construction time, total plant cost (TPC) basis year, plant CF, plant heat rate, fuel cost, plant book life, and plant in-service date were used as inputs to develop capital cost, production cost, and levelized cost-of-electricity (LCOE) estimates. Costs for the plant were based on adjusted vendor-furnished and actual cost data from recent design/build projects. Values for financial assumptions and a cost summary are shown in Table 3.

Project contingencies were added to each case to cover project uncertainty and the cost of any additional equipment that could result from detailed design. The project contingencies represent costs that are expected to occur. Project contingency was 12.5 percent of the subcritical PC CCS case TPC.

Process contingency is intended to compensate for uncertainties arising as a result of the state of technology development. Process contingencies represent 3.6 percent of the subcritical PC CCS case TPC and have been applied to the estimates as follows:

- CO₂ Removal System 20 percent on all PC CCS cases.
- Instrumentation and Controls 5 percent on the PC CCS cases.

This study assumes that each new plant would be dispatched any time it is available and would be capable of generating maximum capacity when online. Therefore, CF is assumed to equal availability and is 85 percent for PC cases.

For the PC cases that feature CCS, capital and operating costs were estimated for transporting CO_2 to an underground storage area, associated storage maintenance, and for monitoring beyond the expected life of the plant. These costs were then levelized over a 20-year period.

The calculated cost of transport, storage, and monitoring for CO_2 is \$3.40/short ton, which adds 4.3 mills/kWh to the LCOE.

The 550 (net) MWe subcritical PC plant with CCS was projected to have a TPC of \$2,888/kWe, resulting in a 20-year levelized COE of 118.8 mills/kWh.

Table 3. Major Financial Assumptions and Resulting Cost Summary

Case: Ix550 MWe net Subcritical PC with CCS						
49.6	(MWe, net)	Heat Rate:	13,724	(Btu/kWh)		
Coal		Fuel Cost:	1.80	(\$/MMBtu)		
3	(years)	Plant Life:	30	(years)		
2007	(January)	Plant in Service:	2010	(January)		
85	(%)	Capital Charge Factor:	17.5	(%)		
Resulting Capital Investment (Levelized 2007 dollars)						
				68.0		
Resulting Operating Costs (Levelized 2007 dollars) ³						
				5.8		
Variable Operating Cost						
Resulting Fuel Cost (Levelized 2007 dollars) @ \$1.80 / MMBtu						
				29.8		
Resulting Levelized CO, Cost (2007 dollars)						
				4.3		
Total Levelized Busbar Cost of Power (2007 dollars)						
				118.8		
	3 2007 85	3 (years) 2007 (January) 85 (%)	A49.6 (MWe, net) Heat Rate: Coal Fuel Cost: 3 (years) Plant Life: 2007 (January) Plant in Service: 85 (%) Capital Charge Factor:	649.6 (MWe, net) Heat Rate: 13,724 Coal Fuel Cost: 1.80 3 (years) Plant Life: 30 2007 (January) Plant in Service: 2010 85 (%) Capital Charge Factor: 17.5		

Costs shown can vary ± 30%.

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Reference: Cost and Performance Baseline for Fossil Energy Plants, Vol. 1, DOE/NETL-2007/1281, May 2007. B_PC_SUB_CCS_051507

²Total plant cost includes all equipment (complete with initial chemical and catalyst loadings), materials, labor (direct and indirect), engineering and construction management, and contingencies (process and project). Owner's costs are not included.

³No credit taken for by-product sales.